Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 7, and 12 as follows:

1. (currently amended): A checkout device comprising:

a scale assembly including a base portion and a weigh plate over the base portion;

wherein the weigh plate includes an aperture;

a barcode reader between the base portion and the weight plate, the barcode reader reading a barcode affixed to an item through the aperture in the weigh plate; and

a security label deactivation system between the base portion and the weigh plate which deactivates a security label affixed to the item after the barcode is read by the barcode reader, the security label deactivation system integrated within the ~~checkout device~~ scale assembly.

2. (original): The checkout device as recited in claim 1, wherein the barcode reader enables the security label deactivation system following reading of the barcode.

3. (previously presented): The checkout device as recited in claim 1, wherein the security label deactivation system includes a magnetic coil assembly for sensing and deactivating the security label.

4. (original): The checkout device as recited in claim 3, wherein the barcode reader reads the barcode before the magnetic coil assembly senses and deactivates the security label.

5. (original): The checkout device as recited in claim 1, further comprising an interlock which enables the security label deactivation system following reading of the barcode.

6. (previously presented): The checkout device as recited in claim 1, wherein the scale assembly fits within a checkstand hole measuring about 11.5 inches by 20 inches.

7. (currently amended): A checkout system comprising:

a checkout device including

a scale assembly including a base portion and a weigh plate over the base portion; wherein the weigh plate includes an aperture;

a barcode reader between the base portion and the weight plate, the barcode reader reading a barcode affixed to an item through the aperture in the weigh plate; and

~~an~~ security label deactivation system between the base portion and the weight scale which deactivates a security label affixed to the item after the barcode is read by the barcode reader, the security label deactivation system integrated within the ~~checkout device~~ scale assembly;

a transaction terminal; and

a cable coupling the checkout device to the transaction terminal, including lines for providing power to the barcode reader and the scale assembly.

8. (original): The checkout system as recited in claim 7, wherein the cable further comprises additional lines for carrying data between the transaction terminal and the barcode reader and between the transaction terminal and the scale.

9. (original): The checkout system as recited in claim 7, wherein the cable is a Y-shaped cable.

10. (original): The checkout system as recited in claim 9, wherein the barcode reader includes first and second ports.

11. (original): The checkout system as recited in claim 10, wherein the Y-shaped cable includes a first connector which is coupled to a third port of the transaction terminal, a second connector which is coupled to the first port of the barcode reader, and a third connector which is coupled to a fourth port of the scale assembly.

12. (currently amended): A checkout method comprising the steps of:

reading a barcode label on an item moving in a path, which crosses an aperture of a scale weigh plate by a barcode reader between the aperture and a scale base portion;

sending a signal to an interlock by the barcode reader;

enabling a security label deactivation system between the scale weigh plate and the scale base portion and in a downstream position from the barcode reader relative to the path of the item, the security label deactivation system integrated within the ~~checkout device~~ scale weigh plate and the scale base portion;

detecting a security label on the item by the security label deactivation system as the item moves along the path and crosses the security label deactivation system; and

deactivating the security label by the security label deactivation system.

13. (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 12, wherein the detecting step comprises the substeps of:

sensing movement of a magnetic material in the security label as it passes near a coil assembly in the security label deactivation system.

14. (original): The method as recited in claim 12, wherein the detecting step comprises the substeps of:

demagnetizing a magnetic material in the security label as it passes near a coil assembly in the security label deactivation system.

Please add the following new claims:

15. (new): The checkout device of claim 1 wherein the security label deactivation system is activated as the item travels along a path which crosses the aperture and continues above the plane of the weigh plate, in response to an enabling signal sent by the bar code reader upon a successful read of the bar code affixed to the item, the security label deactivation system operating to deactivate the security label affixed to the item while the item continues traveling along the path.

16. (new): The checkout device of claim 1 further comprising:

an interlock for activating the security label deactivation system, as the item travels along a path which crosses the aperture for the barcode reader in response to a successful read of the barcode affixed to the item, the interlock activating the security label deactivation system in response to an enable signal transmitted by the barcode reader, the activated security label deactivation system operating to deactivate the security label affixed to the item while the item continues traveling along the path.

17. (new): The checkout device of claim 1 wherein the bar code reader reads the bar code affixed to the item and the security label deactivation system deactivates the security label affixed to the item within the time it takes to pass the item along a path which crosses the aperture and continues above the plane of the weigh plate.